



## NEWS RELEASE

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA) – 1300 MILITARY ROAD – LINCOLN, NE 68508-1090

### Joint Information Center

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#### **NEW NEMA UPDATE**

The State Emergency Operations Center at **Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)** continues its support of flood response along the Missouri and Platte rivers by providing assistance to local emergency management on a 24-hour basis and working with federal agencies in the recovery process.

#### **UPDATED FEMA UPDATE**

**The deadline for registering disaster-damage with the FEMA is Oct. 11.** Homeowners, renters and business owners affected by the flooding between May 24 and Aug.1 are urged to register as soon as possible.

Help is available by calling the **FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362** and selecting the helpline prompt. Survivors may check the status of their recovery process, get answers to questions and provide additional information toward their claim.

- Those who have already registered and their home or business was still flooded when the FEMA inspector assessed their damage need to call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (select the helpline prompt) and schedule a re-inspection.
- Survivors are urged to register with FEMA even if they have insurance, or are awaiting a settlement claim. In addition, if they have applied for assistance with the USDA, filed a claim with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, received assistance from local voluntary agencies, or have called the NEMA flood hotline to report their damage, they still need to register with FEMA in order to be considered for assistance.

#### **NEW SBA UPDATE**

The deadline to submit a federal disaster loan application to the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is Tuesday, October 11, 2011. SBA has approved more than \$1.7 million in federal disaster loans to help Nebraska residents and businesses recover from disaster losses.

SBA offers low-interest federal disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, nonprofit organizations to help pay for repair or replacement of disaster-damaged property. Loan amounts may be up to \$200,000 for a primary residence, \$40,000 for personal property and \$2 million for business assets. Interest rates may be as low as 2.688% for homeowners and renters, 3% for nonprofit organizations and 4% for businesses.

Homeowners and renters should submit their SBA disaster loan application, even if they are not sure if they will need or want a loan. If SBA cannot approve their application, in most cases they refer the applicant to FEMA's Other Needs Assistance (ONA) program for possible additional assistance.

Small businesses and most private, nonprofit organizations may apply for SBA loans of up to \$2 million to help meet disaster caused working capital needs. These working capital loans are available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Until it closes today (Oct. 7), SBA representatives are at the Disaster Recovery Center at the Washington County Courthouse in Blair to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process, and help each individual complete their application.

Applicants may apply online via SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. SBA information and assistance is also available by calling SBA at (800) 659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or on SBA's Web site [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

**UPDATED River Levels** — The National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service lists four flood stages: Major, Moderate, Flood and Action Stages. **Sites at Action Stage or above are:**

#### **North Platte River**

**Lewellen, 6.34 feet** – at Action Stage which is 6 to 7.5 feet

**North Platte, 6.15 feet** – at Flood Stage which is 6 to 6.2 feet

#### **Missouri River**

**Niobrara, 20.31 feet** – is at Action Stage which is 20 to 21 feet

#### **Nebraska Department of Roads Information**

- **Hwy 136 is closed** from Brownville as it runs **EAST into MISSOURI** due to flood damage on the highway. HWY 136 West from Brownville is open.
- **Hwy 159 is closed** from Rulo as it runs **EAST into MISSOURI** due to flood damage on the highway. Hwy 159 West from Rulo is open.
- **Closed** due to I-680 in Iowa being washed out by flood waters. This road will have to be rebuilt.
- **You can connect to I-29 NORTH from I-80 in Council Bluffs.**
- **I-29 is OPEN** from I-80 in Council Bluffs **NORTHWARD**.
- **I-29 South** from I-80 in Council Bluffs remains **closed**, however, Iowa Department of Transportation may have news on opening soon. Check Iowa's Traveler information at: <http://hb.511ia.org/main.jsf> for updates.

#### **Recommended routes from Kansas Department of Transportation and the Iowa DOT**

- From OMAHA - I-80 east into Iowa to I-35; Then take I-35 south into Missouri; **Continue on I-35 south to connect with I-435 into KC**; or for St. Joseph, MO get on Hwy 36 at Cameron MO, and head west to St. Joseph.
- Take I-80 west to Lincoln and get on Hwy 77 south into Kansas to I-70, then take I-70 east to KC;
- Hwy 77 South from Lincoln, through Beatrice, and north from Kansas to Lincoln connecting to I-70 in Kansas
- Hwy 81 South from York, connecting to I-70 in Kansas

Always check with the specific states you'll be traveling through to see what construction might be occurring on highways. Check all at [www.safetravelusa.com](http://www.safetravelusa.com)



[List of County Emergency Managers](#)

[List of Nebraska Local Health Departments](#)

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